

**Appln No. 10/773,998**  
**Amdt date March 2, 2006**  
**Reply to Office action of November 7, 2005**

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested. Currently claims 1, 2, 4 - 16 and 18 through 24 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 4, 16 and 18 - 20 have been amended. Claims 3, 17 and 25 have been canceled.

The specification has been objected to for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the shoulder of the bolt guide and the opening of the housing assembly. This objection is respectfully traversed. Figure 10 illustrates the claimed shoulder and is depicted as reference numeral 30. The discussion in the specification regarding the shoulder can be found beginning on page 6, line 31 of the specification. The claimed opening in the housing is shown in Figure 6, which illustrates an exploded view of the first lock actuating means passing through the housing, which necessarily requires an opening for it to pass through. The description in the specification which discusses the first lock actuating means in connection with the housing begins on page 10, line 5.

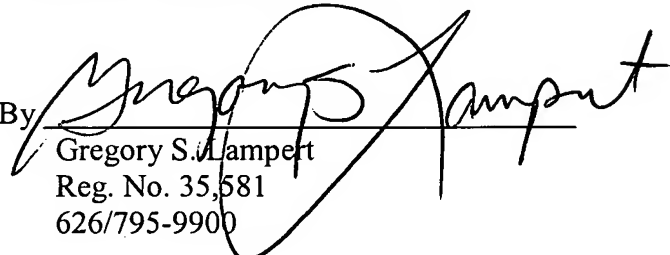
Claims 1 -10, 14, 16 - 20 and 23 have been rejected as allegedly anticipated by LaConte et al. It is respectfully submitted that the claims pending in the Application as amended are not anticipated by LaConte et al. All of the claims in the Application recite a lock assembly having a deadbolt, and first and second lock actuating means wherein the second lock actuating means has an arm that is connected to the deadbolt and the first lock actuating means. This design allows the first and second lock actuating mechanisms to be disengaged from each other when moved to a lock-out position to render the first lock actuating means inoperable. This is accomplished by simply moving the arm out of contact with first lock actuating means. LaConte et al. does not disclose this combination as the first and second lock actuating means do not connect with each other. On the contrary, the second lock actuating means engages a handle driver 24 which in turn engages the first lock actuating mechanism. Separate flanges and grooves are required between the handle driver 24 and the first lock actuating mechanism. LaConte et al. discloses a three-piece design whereas the current claimed invention recites a two-piece design. Consequently, the current invention is easier to manufacture and is less expensive.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and, accordingly, early indication thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By

  
Gregory S. Lampert  
Reg. No. 35,581  
626/795-9900

GSL/vsj

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